



UNITED
NATIONS



Convention to Combat Desertification

Distr.
GENERAL

ICCD/COP(2)/14
29 April 1999

ENGLISH
Original: ENGLISH/FRENCH

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES ON ITS SECOND SESSION
HELD IN DAKAR FROM 30 NOVEMBER TO 11 DECEMBER 1998

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I. OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

A. Welcoming ceremony

1. On 30 November 1998, H.E. Mr. Abdou Diouf, President of the Republic of Senegal, opened the welcoming ceremony and made a statement.
2. Statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, who also conveyed a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and by the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Convention.
3. Summaries of the statements made during the welcoming ceremony are to be found in annex I.

B. Opening of the session

4. The second session of the Conference of the Parties, convened pursuant to article 22 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, was opened in Dakar, Senegal, on 30 November 1998, by the representative of the President of the first session of the Conference of the Parties.

C. Election of the President

(Agenda item 1)

5. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 30 November, the Conference elected Mr. Souty Touré, Minister for the Environment and Protection of Nature of the Republic of Senegal, as President by acclamation.
6. At the same meeting, the President made a statement.

D. Opening and general statements

7. At the 1st plenary meeting, on 30 November, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat made a statement.
8. At the same meeting, the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification made a statement.
9. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Indonesia (on behalf of the States members of the Group of 77), Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union), Canada (also on behalf of Australia, Iceland, Japan, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States of America) and Ecuador (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean Group).
10. The representative of Third World Environment and Development (ENDA-TM) also made a statement on behalf of the community of non-governmental organizations.

11. At the 2nd plenary meeting, statements were made by the Executive Secretary of the secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention) and the representative of the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Statements were also made by the representatives of the following intergovernmental organizations: League of Arab States, Intergovernmental Authority on Development. Statements were made by the representatives of the World Meteorological Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. The representative of the United Nations Environment Programme also made a statement.

12. At the 5th plenary meeting, on 7 December, the Vice-President of the World Bank, Mr. Ian Johnson, made a statement.

13. Summaries of the opening and general statements referred to in paragraphs 7-12 are to be found in annex II.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

A. Adoption of the agenda (Agenda item 3)

14. At the 1st plenary meeting, on 30 November, following statements by the representative of Austria (on behalf of the States members of the European Union) and Benin (on behalf of the African Group), the Conference adopted its agenda as contained in document ICCD/COP(2)/1 and Corr.1.

B. Election of officers other than the President (Agenda item 2)

15. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 30 November, the Conference heard statements by the chairmen of the regional groups, who put forward candidates for the posts of Vice-President of the Conference and for the post of Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology.

16. At the same meeting, the Conference elected Mr. Mohammad Reza H.K. Jabbari (Islamic Republic of Iran) as Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology at its second session, who served ex officio as a member of the Bureau of the second session.

17. At the 3rd plenary meeting, on 1 December, the representative of Benin stated on behalf of the African Group that, Africa being host continent of the second session of the Conference of the Parties, it wished to show understanding and flexibility with respect to that group's representation on the Bureau. Accordingly, the African Group was prepared to conform to the consensus by claiming only two members for the Bureau of the second session, on the understanding that it intends to claim three members in a Bureau of 11 members for the third and subsequent sessions.

18. At the same meeting, the Conference then elected by acclamation the following officers to serve on its Bureau for the second session in addition to the President and Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology:

Vice-Presidents:

Mr. John Ashe (Antigua and Barbuda)
Ms. María Julia Alsogaray (Argentina)
Mr. Jafarov Ogtay (Azerbaijan)
Mr. Marc Gedopt (Belgium)
Mr. Olivier Jalbert (Canada)
Mr. Abdelmajid Khabour (Jordan)
Mr. Ali Saad Altokhais (Saudi Arabia)
Mr. Hatem Ben Salem (Tunisia)

Vice-President-cum-Rapporteur:

Mr. Samvel Baloyan (Armenia)

C. Organization of work, including the establishment
of a Committee of the Whole
(Agenda item 3)

19. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 30 November, the Conference approved the proposed organization of work for the session, as contained in document ICCD/COP(2)/1, annex II, and Corr.1.

Establishment of the Committee of the Whole

20. At its 1st plenary meeting, on 30 November, the Conference decided to establish a Committee of the Whole at its second session to consider outstanding issues for adoption by the Conference.

21. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 1 December, upon the proposal of the President, the Conference designated Mr. Marc Gedopt (Belgium) as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole.

D. Committee on Science and Technology

22. The Committee on Science and Technology was convened under the chairmanship of Mr. Mohammad Reza H.K. Jabbari (Islamic Republic of Iran). The Committee held seven meetings, from 1 to 4 December 1998.

23. The Committee had before it the following agenda:

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of vice-chairpersons.
3. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
4. Benchmarks and indicators.
5. Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies.

6. Report on the work of other bodies performing work similar to that envisaged for the Committee on Science and Technology.
7. Traditional knowledge.
8. Future work programme of the Committee.
9. Roster of independent experts.
10. Creation, if necessary, of an ad hoc panel or panels.
11. Other matters.
12. Report of the session.

24. At its 2nd meeting, on 1 December, the Committee elected the following vice-chairpersons by acclamation 1/: Mr. Samuel Mutiso (Kenya), Mr. Guido Soto (Chile) and Ms. Linda Brown (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).

25. The Committee on Science and Technology made a number of recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, which took action on them at its 5th, 10th and 12th meetings, on 7, 10 and 11 December (see paragraphs 48-51).

E. Admission of organizations as observers
(Agenda item 5)

Observer status for intergovernmental organizations

26. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 1 December, the Conference decided to accord observer status to the intergovernmental organizations listed in document ICCD/COP(2)/12, annex I.

27. At its 4th plenary meeting, on 4 December, the Conference decided to accord observer status to the intergovernmental organizations listed in document ICCD/COP(2)/12/Add.1, annex I (namely the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas and the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute).

Accreditation of non-governmental organizations

28. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 1 December, the Conference also decided to accredit the non-governmental organizations listed in document ICCD/COP(2)/12, annex III.

F. Attendance

29. The second session of the Conference of the Parties was attended by representatives of the following 113 Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification:

Algeria	Belgium	Canada
Angola	Belize	Cape Verde
Antigua and Barbuda	Benin	Central African
Argentina	Bolivia	Republic
Armenia	Botswana	Chad
Austria	Brazil	Chile
Azerbaijan	Burkina Faso	China
Bangladesh	Burundi	Comoros
Barbados	Cameroon	Cook Islands

Costa Rica	Italy	Paraguay
Cuba	Jamaica	Peru
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Japan	Portugal
Denmark	Jordan	Romania
Djibouti	Kazakhstan	Saint Lucia
Dominican Republic	Kenya	Sao Tome and Principe
Ecuador	Kuwait	Saudi Arabia
Egypt	Kyrgyzstan	Senegal
El Salvador	Lao People's Democratic Republic	South Africa
Eritrea	Lesotho	Spain
Ethiopia	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	Sudan
European Community	Luxembourg	Swaziland
Fiji	Madagascar	Sweden
Finland	Malawi	Switzerland
France	Mali	Syrian Arab Republic
Gambia	Mauritania	Tajikistan
Germany	Mexico	Togo
Ghana	Mongolia	Tunisia
Greece	Morocco	Turkey
Guinea	Mozambique	Turkmenistan
Guinea-Bissau	Myanmar	Uganda
Haiti	Namibia	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Honduras	Nepal	United Republic of Tanzania
Iceland	Netherlands	Uzbekistan
India	Niger	Viet Nam
Indonesia	Nigeria	Yemen
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Niue	Zambia
Ireland	Norway	Zimbabwe
Israel	Pakistan	
	Panama	

30. The session was also attended by observers from the following 13 States not Parties to the Convention:

Australia
Czech Republic
Holy See
Japan
Nauru
Philippines
Poland
Republic of Korea
Russian Federation
Rwanda
Thailand
Tuvalu
United States of America

31. The following United Nations offices and programmes were represented:

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)
United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)
United Nations University (UNU)
World Food Programme (WFP)

32. The following specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system were represented:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Global Environment Facility (GEF)
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
International Labour Organization (ILO)
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS)
Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
World Bank
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

G. Documentation

33. The documents before the Conference of the Parties at its second session are listed in annex VII below.

III. SPECIAL SEGMENT ON CONVENTION IMPLEMENTATION

34. A list of speakers at the special segment on ways and means by which the Conference of the Parties could promote the timely and effective implementation of the Convention is to be found in annex III.

35. The President's summary regarding the special segment is to be found in annex IV.

IV. DECISIONS AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

A. Decisions taken directly in the Plenary

36. At its 10th meeting, on 10 December, the Conference took the following decision:

24/COP.2 Date and venue of the third session of the Conference of the Parties

37. At its 12th meeting, on 11 December, the Conference took the following decision:

23/COP.2 Report on the Round Table of Parliamentarians

The Declaration referred to in decision 23/COP.2 is attached as annex V to this report.

B. Decision taken on the recommendation of the Bureau

38. At its 12th meeting, on 11 December, the Conference took the following decision on the recommendation of the Bureau:

25/COP.2 Credentials of representatives of Parties to the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (ICCD/COP(2)/13) 2/

C. Decisions taken on the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole

39. At its 12th meeting, on 11 December, the Conference took the following decisions on the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole:

- 1/COP.2 Ordinary sessions of the Conference of the Parties
- 2/COP.2 Programme of work for the Conference of the Parties
- 3/COP.2 Administrative and support arrangements for the secretariat, including interim arrangements
- 4/COP.2 Agreement concerning the headquarters of the permanent secretariat of the Convention
- 5/COP.2 Procedures for the communication of information and review of implementation
- 6/COP.2 Adjustment to the Convention budget and programme for 1999
- 7/COP.2 Medium-term strategy of the secretariat
- 8/COP.2 Collaboration with other conventions
- 9/COP.2 Regional implementation annexes and interregional programmes and platforms of cooperation
- 10/COP.2 Review of the implementation of the Convention
- 11/COP.2 Regional cooperation between countries of eastern and central Europe
- 18/COP.2 Global Mechanism
- 19/COP.2 Memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the International Fund for Agricultural Development regarding the modalities and administrative operations of the Global Mechanism
- 20/COP.2 Consideration of rules 22 and 31 of the rules of procedure
- 21/COP.2 Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure
- 22/COP.2 Resolution of questions; annexes on arbitration and conciliation procedures

40. At the 12th meeting, on 11 December, the following statements were made.

41. With respect to decision 3/COP.2, the United States of America made a statement explaining why it could not support paragraph 3 of that decision. It stated that: (a) as a matter of principle, conference servicing costs should not be borne by the United Nations regular budget, but rather by the Parties to the Convention; (b) the United States Congress was considering withholding its proportionate share of conference servicing costs for all conventions funded from the United Nations regular budget; (c) the decision on the 1999 budget contained a provision (6/COP.2, para. 12) acceptable to the United States of America relating to future conferences, whose wording was similar to a provision adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its fourth session.

42. With respect to decision 4/COP.2, Germany made the following statement:

"On behalf of the German delegation I would like to say that we are particularly happy that the headquarters agreement could be signed in due course before the second session of the Conference of the Parties.

We are pleased to report that the fulfilment of the formal requirements on our side, which are needed to enable the Agreement to enter into force, will, most likely, be achieved by early 1999.

We are also delighted to state before the Second Conference of the Parties that, following the offer of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Agreement provides for the equal treatment of the Permanent Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Permanent Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification."

43. With respect to decision 7/COP.2, Haiti, on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC), made the following statement:

"The GRULAC considers it very necessary for the medium-term strategy of the secretariat to be approved in order to allow the secretariat to fulfil its mandate in a straightforward and efficient manner."

44. Also with respect to decision 7/COP.2, Benin, speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, stated that the Group understood that the compendium referred to in paragraph 2 of the decision would include document ICCD/COP(2)/6.

45. With respect to decision 9/COP.2, Austria, on behalf of the European Union and its member States, made the following statement:

"We appreciate the efforts undertaken by parties of the regional annexes in intensifying their cooperation in the implementation of the Convention. As we have heard, some regions have undertaken to facilitate their cooperation through the establishment of regional coordination units co-located with the UNEP regional office in Mexico and the African Development Bank in Abidjan. The COP has taken useful further steps to strengthen regional cooperation, in particular through

this decision. However, it is our firm position that the facilitating role of the Executive Secretary must not lead to the creation of new formal Convention structures."

46. Also with respect to decision 9/COP.2, Haiti, on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States (GRULAC), made the following statement:

"The GRULAC requests the secretariat to pursue and reinforce its actions in support of national, subregional and regional activities in Latin America and the Caribbean in the struggle against desertification and the effects of drought."

47. With respect to decision 19/COP.2, the following statement was made by Canada on behalf of the States members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development:

"... (W)e are naturally disappointed that it was not possible to adopt the MOU itself at this session. We were, as you know, fully content with the substance of the instrument developed for our consideration by the Secretariat and IFAD, both of which we would like to commend most sincerely for their efforts. Some of the language in the MOU in our opinion needs to be modified for purely technical reasons. The changes fall into three categories: First, all the references to 'agreement' and 'agree' should become 'MOU' and 'understand'; second, 'shall' should become 'will'; and third 'entry into force' should become 'entry into operation'. With these technical changes the MOU would be perfectly correct, both in its form and its substance. We would like the secretariat and IFAD, when continuing their consultations on the text of the MOU, as just decided by the Conference of the Parties, to take these points on board. We rest assured that even without the formal adoption of this MOU, the GM can continue to operate efficiently."

D. Decisions taken on the recommendation of
the Committee on Science and Technology

48. At its 5th meeting, on 7 December, the Conference took the following decisions on the recommendation of the Committee on Science and Technology:

- 13/COP.2 Roster of independent experts
- 15/COP.2 Other bodies performing work similar to that envisaged for the Committee on Science and Technology
- 16/COP.2 Benchmarks and indicators
- 17/COP.2 Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies

49. At its 10th meeting, on 10 December, the Conference took the following decision on the recommendation of the Committee on Science and Technology:

- 14/COP.2 Traditional knowledge

50. At its 12th meeting, on 11 December, the Conference took the following decision on the recommendation of the Committee on Science and Technology:

- 12/COP.2 Work programme of the Committee on Science and Technology

51. In accordance with decision 12/COP.2, on the recommendation of the Bureau of the Committee on Science and Technology, the Conference decided at its 12th meeting, on 11 December, to appoint the following 10 experts to comprise an ad hoc group on traditional knowledge:

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Discipline</u>
BOMBA	Jean-Claude	M	Climatology
HOFFMAN	Michael Tim	M	Botany, ecology/ecosystems
NARAIN	Sunita	F	Natural resources management
OSMAN SAAKA	Samuel	M	Environment
PHILIP	Christiaan Rey	M	Rural development and regional planning
SHATANAWI	Mohammed	M	Hydrology
TORRES GUEVARA	Juan	M	Agricultural sciences, Biodiversity
UPQUIZA	Maria	F	Agricultural sciences, Environment
VARTEVANIAN	Ashot	M	Agriculture
WACKER	Corinne	F	Anthropology and sociology

and further decided to designate Mr. Jean-Claude Bomba of the Central African Republic as its coordinator.

E. Programme and budget: review of the situation regarding extrabudgetary funds in 1998
(Agenda item 6 (c) (iii))

52. At its 12th plenary meeting, on 11 December, the Conference took note of the report of the secretariat 2/ on extrabudgetary funds in 1998.

F. Resolutions

53. At its 12th plenary meeting, on 11 December, the Conference unanimously adopted the following resolutions:

Resolution 1/COP.2	Solidarity with Central America
Resolution 2/COP.2	Expression of thanks to the people and Government of Senegal

V. CONCLUSION OF THE SESSION

A. Adoption of the report on credentials

54. At its 12th plenary meeting, on 11 December, the Conference, having considered the report on credentials of the Bureau of the second session of the Conference (ICCD/COP(2)/13) and the recommendation contained therein, approved the report on credentials, as orally amended. It was subsequently ascertained by the secretariat that the report contained in ICCD/COP(2)/13 did not fully reflect the report of the Bureau in that 10 names had been

inadvertently omitted during the processing of the document. Accordingly a revised document was issued (ICCD/COP(2)/13/Rev.1), adding the names of Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia and Spain to paragraph 6 of the report, in addition to those of Tunisia and the United Republic of Tanzania.

B. Date and venue of the third session
of the Conference of the Parties

55. At its 10th plenary meeting, on 10 December, the Conference of the Parties adopted decision 24/COP.2 on the date and venue of the third session of the Conference of the Parties, the text of which is contained in Part Two, section I, of this report.

C. Adoption of the report of the Conference
of the Parties on its second session

56. At its 12th plenary meeting, on 11 December, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft report on its second session (ICCD/COP(2)/L.29) authorizing the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the secretariat, to complete the report, as appropriate.

D. Closure of the session

57. Statements made at the closing ceremony are summarized in annex VI.

58. The Prime Minister of the Republic of Senegal, H.E. Mr. Mamadou Lamine Loum, made a statement and declared closed the second session of the Conference of the Parties.

Notes

- 1/ The post of one vice-chairperson remained vacant.
- 2/ See also ICCD/COP(2)/13/Rev.1.
- 3/ ICCD/COP(2)/3 and Add.1.

Annex I

SUMMARIES OF STATEMENTS MADE AT THE WELCOMING CEREMONY

1. At the first plenary meeting of the COP 2 on 30 November 1998, Mr. Hama Arba Diallo, Executive Secretary of the CCD secretariat, thanked Senegal for hosting the COP 2 and for playing a leading role in the combat against desertification at the regional, international as well as the national levels.
2. He recalled that the Convention does not provide solutions, but a new tool to improve life conditions in arid, semi-arid, and sub-humid areas while preserving natural resources. It offers an innovative instrument to break the circle of poverty and desertification, and to create new hope in affected populations in the framework of sustainable development. While land degradation, water scarcity and food insecurity still represent major constraints for affected countries, the numerous initiatives taken in the framework of the UNCCD allow for some optimism. International cooperation, as well as the prompt elaboration of national, subregional and regional action programmes needs to be further enhanced and the secretariat remains at the disposal of all Parties to facilitate this urgent process.
3. After recalling the 145 ratifications received to date, he illustrated the main activities undertaken in the affected regions. He then stressed that the COP 2 would start the discussion on the process of elaboration and implementation of action programmes at the national, subregional and regional levels, including on the role of national focal points, coordination mechanisms, stakeholders and affected populations at all levels. After two years from the entry into force of the CCD, many observers are now expecting to see it become reality in the field.
4. A message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations was conveyed to the Conference by Mr. Nitin Desai, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs. He stressed that this was the largest United Nations meeting ever held in Senegal, and that it was particularly appropriate to have it in Africa, which has played a leading role towards the creation of the Convention. He highlighted that the Convention has pre-eminently a development focus, and addresses the issue of poverty that affects over one billion people around the world, the importance of a participatory approach and of international partnership among affected countries, and countries that are in a position to provide assistance and support. The Convention contains in particular three elements which are fully in accordance with the principles of the Rio Summit: the link between environment and development, the call for strong partnership between developing and developed countries, and the importance of interrelations among different sectors and processes (poverty, climate change, etc.) in a unitarian framework. For these reasons, he was particularly satisfied to state the success of the CCD process, but recalled the importance of strengthening coordination and international cooperation.
5. H.E. Mr. Abdou Diouf, President of Senegal, welcomed all participants and thanked the Conference for choosing Senegal as the host country for its

second session. He recalled how severely Senegal and the Sahel have been hit by desertification, and how closely this process is linked to poverty, migrations and underdevelopment at the global level. In Africa, the phenomenon is assuming particularly alarming dimensions.

6. He stressed the need to seek for adequate responses to the demand for better living conditions from affected populations. Traditional knowledge has provided good answers in the past, but is no longer sufficient given the growing complexity of the problem. He highlighted the importance of international awareness and support for affected countries. He recalled the United Nations role and engagement, as well as initiatives at the regional and national levels, such as the creation of the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) out of the tragedy of the years 1969-1974, and the Senegalese engagement in establishing structures and programmes to focus policy priorities towards addressing desertification. It is now necessary to move to an effective operational phase. In particular, three elements should be taken into account: the need to coordinate activities under the three global Conventions; the need for adequate financial resources, with particular regard to the formula for debt conversion against nature conservation; and the need to define the role and operational procedures of the Global Mechanism.

Annex II

SUMMARIES OF OPENING AND GENERAL STATEMENTS

1. Ambassador Franchetti Pardo, on behalf of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Italy, Mr. Lamberto Dini, reported to the Conference on the results of the last meeting of the Bureau, and congratulated Senegal for the organization of the second session of the COP.
2. The Minister for the Environment and Protection of Nature of Senegal, Mr. Souty Touré, thanked the Conference for electing him President of the session and stressed the importance of the Convention in the Senegalese approach to development issues. Senegal has tackled desertification since the 1960s, but at the beginning of the twenty-first century the process of land degradation in all regions of the world raises increasing concern. The magnitude of the degradation of natural resources poses serious constraints on development perspectives and calls for a new approach, as contained in the Convention. The full partnership of all involved stakeholders at the local and international levels; the need for integrated planning that harmonizes sectoral policies; the enhancement of international cooperation - these are the constructive elements contained in the Convention, that make it possible to hope for a better future.
3. On behalf of the Group of 77 and China, the representative of Indonesia expressed hope for a fruitful discussion on concrete initiatives in affected countries, and encouraged all Parties to fully support the operationalization and implementation of the CCD. Regional coordination units and stronger international partnership should be enhanced. He expressed concern that developed countries lack enthusiasm in supporting affected countries in implementing the CCD, and wished for the Global Mechanism to start operating as soon as possible. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) should also develop new programmes focusing on mitigation of desertification effects.
4. On behalf of the European Union, the representative of Austria expressed the hope that the COP 2 offers the occasion for a fruitful dialogue on the implementation of the CCD. Europe believes in the importance of the Convention and of international cooperation, and will continue to support it in the post Lomé framework. He stressed the need to avoid duplications and to establish coordination tools such as the chef-de-file, as well as to enhance the bottom-up, participatory approach and synergies among the global conventions. He encouraged the COP 2 to shape the mandate of the CCD, especially taking into account the distinct role of the Global Mechanism. Also, he wished for the Committee on Science and Technology to develop a more focused agenda.
5. On behalf of the JUSSCANZ group, the representative of Canada welcomed the opening of the COP 2 and gave an assurance of the group's full collaboration in a constructive process.
6. On behalf of GRULAC, the representative of Ecuador highlighted the interest expressed by the GRULAC region in the CCD by recalling that more than 90 per cent of its members have already ratified the Convention. A regional action programme has been elaborated, while a regional coordination unit and a

regional information network are already established. Furthermore, great interest is taken in the issues related to indicators and traditional knowledge, while concern was expressed at the unequal distribution of financial resources among regions. He also expressed the hope that GRULAC would host COP 3.

7. On behalf of the community of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) accredited to the COP 2, the representative of ENDA informed of the preparatory session held by the NGOs before the opening of the COP 2. The NGOs expressed appreciation of the initiative to have two half-days of NGO-government dialogue during the Conference, as a concrete sign of the countries' intention to turn into reality the partnership with civil society in the implementation of the CCD. They indicated that the sessions would be devoted to the role of civil society and of traditional knowledge as concrete tools in combating desertification, rather than a theoretical exercise. The NGOs expressed concern with the delay in launching the Global Mechanism, and highlighted the need to extend the GEF focal areas also to land degradation. They proposed the establishment of an NGO consultative committee at the GEF, as well as regular NGO meetings between COP sessions to be coordinated by the CCD secretariat.

8. As at the first session of the COP, the Ramsar Secretariat confirmed its intention to collaborate with the CCD secretariat to maintain and restore habitats that are essential to secure a sound resource base for people's development and well-being. Some of the most important wetlands are in the arid zone, where there may be thousands and possibly hundreds of thousands of wetlands of different sizes. Furthermore, Parties to the Ramsar Convention are also Parties to the CCD. A memorandum of understanding is being discussed among the two secretariats.

9. The representative of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) stated that cooperation between the CCD and the CBD has been formalized through a memorandum of understanding. Arid zones are of great importance for conservation of biodiversity as they host 35 per cent of the human population, which puts great pressure on natural resources. The memorandum of understanding provides not only the general framework for cooperation but also concrete initiatives to support the implementation of the two conventions, as well as joint scientific activities and information management. The Convention on Biological Diversity approaches ecosystems through four work programmes addressing biodiversity in forests, agriculture, international waters and oceans and coastal areas. In particular, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, at its fourth session, established that ecosystems of arid and semi-arid zones, Mediterranean habitats, and savannahs will be at the core of the COP 5, to be held in Nairobi in the year 2000. A crucial aspect of cooperation among the two secretariats will be the possibility of new procedures to allow for more efficiency in the Parties' fulfilment of reporting obligations deriving from the conventions.

10. The Executive Secretary of the CCD highlighted the importance of collaboration among conventions and of further enhancing synergies.

11. The representative of the Arab Centre for the Study of Arid Zones and Dry Lands (ACSAD) stated that ACSAD is one of the specialized organizations

working in the framework of the League of Arab States and is in charge of coordinating the implementation of the CCD. The most important measures taken include strengthening the scientific linkage between those concerned, enhancing research and elaboration and implementation of pilot projects. Priority is given to desertification control and to the possibility of applying techniques also to African countries. While solutions to the problems are possible, in many cases their implementation meets obstacles in the lack of sufficient financial resources and in some legislative, social and organizational factors.

12. The representative of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) stated that phenomena like the increase of the mean surface temperature of the earth and El Niño are just examples that indicate the role WMO can play in supporting the implementation of the CCD through its programmes and in particular the following activities: promotion at the regional and global levels of the collection, analysis and free exchange of information and data on meteorological, climatological and hydrological situations and processes; capacity-building and training; and promotion of the implementation of the "climate agenda" with other organizations. Special attention should be paid to the establishment of a mechanism for cooperation between the CCD, the CBD and the FCCC as well with the WMO/UNEP Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and to improving systematic meteorological and climatological data collection and exchange. Availability of adequate financial resources is fundamental.

13. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) recalled the interest and engagement of FAO in the combat against desertification which is closely related to the main mandate of FAO, namely, food security. In particular, FAO is engaged in two directions. Firstly, strengthening desertification-related activities within the organization's regular programme. Over 100 projects are currently being implemented in the drylands. Secondly, it has established cooperation agreements with the Italian Government, IFAD and UNEP. An agreement is also being finalized between the FAO and the CCD secretariat. Furthermore, the FAO is happy to contribute its long experience and collection of data to the CCD Parties.

14. The representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) stated that UNESCO is finalizing a memorandum of understanding with the CCD secretariat to enhance collaboration, particularly in the sectors of education, science and culture. Many of the current fields of activities of UNESCO have close links to desertification issues, for example its programme of training for African scientists, its network on biosphere reserves that includes some dryland areas, and its hydrological programme. Combating desertification is a multisectoral task that implies scientific as well as humanistic aspects.

15. The representative of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) stated that UNEP has a long history of engagement in desertification issues. In particular, UNEP is leading a consortium to undertake a preliminary survey of networks and institutions relevant to the implementation of the CCD. As one of the implementing agencies of the GEF, UNEP is providing support for action programmes to combat dryland degradation at the subregional and

regional levels, in particular in the GRULAC region and in the Russian Federation. It is engaged in identifying and promoting "best practices" and awareness-raising initiatives on the theme of land degradation. UNEP can further play a role in assessment and environmental reporting, gathering and exchange of scientific and technological information, facilitation of consultation processes, and the development of projects for GEF consideration.

16. The representative of the World Bank expressed his organization's concern with the problems of land degradation and land management because they are key issues in development perspectives. Desertification can only be tackled in the context of broader economic and social change. The World Bank believes that poverty can be tackled by taking into account local, regional and global environmental concerns. The World Bank invests over US\$ 18 billion, of which US\$ 1.8 billion goes to land degradation projects, and is collaborating with UNDP and UNEP as implementing agencies of the GEF to mobilize and channel financial resources within the GEF focal areas. Forty per cent of the World Bank projects are in Sub-Saharan Africa. It plans to enhance projects aiming at dryland management and at synergies and collaboration among agencies and institutions.

Annex III

LIST OF SPEAKERS AT THE SPECIAL SEGMENT

- Mr. Souty Touré
Minister for the Environment and Protection of Nature of Senegal
- Mr. Trenggono
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Indonesia to Senegal
(on behalf of the States members of the Group of 77)
- Mr. Martin Bartenstein
Federal Minister for the Environment, Youth and Family Affairs of Austria
(on behalf of the States members of the European Union)
- Mr. Valerio Calzolaio
Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of the Environment of Italy
- Mr. José Antonio Pinto Monteiro
Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Environment of Cape Verde
- Mr. Abdul Hamid Al-Monajed
Minister of State for Environmental Affairs of the Syrian Arab Republic
- Mme Dominique Voynet
Minister for Land Management and the Environment of France
- Mr. Mohamed El-Ashry
Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility
- Mr. Seyed Hamid Kalantari
Deputy Minister for Jihad Sazandegi of the Islamic Republic of Iran
- Ms. Ursula Eid
Deputy Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany
- Mr. Rafe Pomerance
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans, International
Environmental and Scientific Affairs of the United States of America
- Mr. Henri-Philippe Cart
Vice Director-General, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- Mr. John Westley
Vice-President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development
- Mrs. Eimi Watanabe
Assistant Administrator and Director, Bureau for Development Policy,
United Nations Development Programme

Mr. Rasmus Rasmusson
Ambassador, Global Convention Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
Sweden

Mr. Smail Benamara
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Algeria to Senegal

Mr. Jan Naerby
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Norway to Senegal

Mr. Jawahar Lal
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of India to Senegal

Mr. Guido Soto
Coordinator of the National Plan of Action Against Desertification of Chile

Mr. Seydou Oumarou
Executive Secretary of the National Council for Environment and Sustainable
Development of Niger

Mr. Mohamed Ould Sidi Ahmed Lekhal
Minister of Rural Development and the Environment of Mauritania

Mr. Musa Mbenga
Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources of the Gambia (in his capacity
as Minister Coordinator of the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought
Control in the Sahel)

Mr. Arefaine Berhe
Minister for Agriculture of Eritrea

Mr. Mohamed Ag Erlaf
Minister for the Environment of Mali

Mr. Miguel Eduardo Araujo Padilla
Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources of El Salvador

Mr. Adade Koffi Santy
Minister for the Environment and Forestry Production of Togo

Mr. Chbaatou Said
Minister in charge of Water Resources and Forests of Morocco

Mr. Michael Zammit Cutajar
Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework
Convention on Climate Change

Mr. Anatoliy M. Ovchinnikov
Deputy Minister for Hydrometeorology of Uzbekistan

Mr. Samvel Baloyan
Deputy Minister for Nature Protection of Armenia

Mr. Murat Mussatayev
Vice-Minister for Ecology and Natural Resources of Kazakhstan

Mr. Enrique Alonso
Director-General, Ministry of the Environment of Spain

Mr. Madhav Prasad Ghimire
Joint Secretary, Ministry of Population and the Environment of Nepal

Mr. Athanassios Theodorakis
Deputy Director-General for Development at the European Community

Mrs. Xue Hanqin
Deputy Director-General, Department of International Law and Treaties,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China

Mr. Imorou Seidou
Director of the Cabinet, Ministry of the Environment, Habitat and Urban
Affairs of Benin

Mr. R. Muyungi
Senior Environment Officer, Department of the Environment of the
United Republic of Tanzania

Ms. Tsedale Waktola
Head of the Environmental Impact Studies and Control Department, Environmental
Protection Authority of Ethiopia

Mr. David Johansson
Ambassador, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland

Mr. Muhammad Saeed Khalid
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Pakistan to Senegal

Mr. Arthur Nelson
Chairman of the Select Committee on Infrastructure and Physical Development,
Member of the Jamaican Parliament

Mr. Salif Diallo
Minister of State, Minister of Environment and Water of Burkina Faso

Mr. Poul Nielson
Minister for Development Cooperation of Denmark

Mr. Mamoshebi Kabi
Minister for the Environment, Gender and Youth Affairs of Lesotho

Mr. Franklin Bett
Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environmental Conservation of Kenya

Mr. Klaus Toepfer
Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme

Mr. Cheikh Abdoul Kadre Cissokho
President of the National Assembly of Senegal and Chairman of the
Parliamentary Round Table

Mr. J.L.T. Mothibamele
Assistant Minister for Agriculture of Botswana

Mr. Okan Uger
Deputy Under-Secretary, Ministry of the Environment of Turkey

Mr. Oo Phae Thann
Joint Secretary, National Commission for Environmental Affairs of Myanmar

Mr. Antonio V. Guerreiro
Director-General for Special Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil

Mr. Hatem Ben Salem
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Tunisia to Senegal

Mr. Octavio Perez Pardo
Director of the Conservation of the Soil, Department of Natural Resources and
Sustainable Development of Argentina

Mr. Ali Saad Altokhais
Director General, Water Resources Development Department of Saudi Arabia

Mr. Victor Louro
Director-General, Ministry of Agriculture of Portugal (on behalf of the
Annex IV countries)

Mr. Doron M. Grossman
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Israel to Senegal

Mr. Makhaya N.N.J. Mosia
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of South Africa to Senegal

Mr. Nikita F. Glazovsky
Chairman of the Council of the Ecological Foundation of the Russian Federation

Mr. David Turner
Head of the Environment Policy Department, Department of International
Development of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Mr. Seth Ratovoson
Secretary-General, Ministry of the Environment of Madagascar

Mr. Edward D. Singhatey
Secretary of State for Presidential Affairs and Natural Resources of the
Gambia

Mr. Terry Coe
Minister for Agriculture of Niue

Mr. Harold E. Acemah
Director, Multilateral Organizations and Trade Department, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs of Uganda

Mr. Mohamed Naguib
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Egypt to Senegal

Mr. S.M. Lutfullah
Joint Secretary, Ministry for the Environment and Forests of Bangladesh

Mr. R.O. Adewoye
Director-General, Chief Executive, Federal Environmental Protection Agency of
Nigeria

Mr. Haroun Abakar
Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chad

Mr. Joao Da Costa Vintém
National Focal Point, Angola

Mr. Park Jayson
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to
Senegal

The Right Honorable Sir Toaripi Lauti
Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of Tuvalu

Mr. Davaa Basandorj
State Secretary, Ministry of Nature and the Environment of Mongolia

Mr. J.O. Afrani
Director, Ministry of the Environment, Science and Technology of Ghana

Mr. M.D. Munemo
Director, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Environment and Tourism of
Zimbabwe

Mr. Hadi Hammad
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to
Senegal

Mr. René Gomez Garcia Palas
Director-General for Land and Watershed Management of Bolivia

Mrs. Lolita Hilario
National Focal Point for Desertification, Ministry of the Environment of
Mozambique

Mr. Luis Garnica
Director for the Environment, National Institute for Natural Resources of Peru

Ms. Mathilda Miria-Tairea
Legal Counsel for the Ministry of Works, Energy and Physical Planning of the
Cook Islands

Mr. Carlos Valarezo
Adviser, Ministry of the Environment of Ecuador

Mr. Jean Clément
Director, Forestry Resources Division, Forestry Department of the Food and
Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

Mr. Lev Komlev
Senior Economic Affairs Officer of the United Nations Conference on Trade and
Development

Mr. El-Amin Dafallah
Minister for Agriculture and Forestry of the Sudan

Annex IV

PRESIDENT'S SUMMARY OF STATEMENTS MADE DURING THE SPECIAL SEGMENT

1. Over a period of two days, the participants in the high-level segment outlined the contributions made by their countries and organizations towards the effective implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification. The discussions were enhanced by the presence of a large number of ministers, senior governmental officials, representatives of specialized agencies and institutions in the United Nations system, interregional and regional organizations and other bodies.

2. The participants welcomed the efforts made by the secretariat to make the Convention a universal instrument and the actions undertaken to implement it.

3. Many delegations from the worst-affected regions described the progress made in their programmes of action at the national, subregional and regional levels. They cited the principal difficulties hampering the implementation of the Convention in those regions and appealed for the strengthening of cooperation with their principal development partners.

4. The participants also raised a number of issues which should be highlighted:

- The delay in the establishment of the Global Mechanism and the need to make it operational as rapidly as possible.
- Efforts to take greater account of the requirements for funding of desertification control activities by the Global Environment Facility.
- The lack of a body to monitor the implementation of the Convention. However, the participants welcomed the informal exchange held on national programmes of action, a forum which helped to clarify the state of progress in the implementation of the Convention.
- It was also suggested that provision should be made for a protocol for the implementation of the Convention containing quantifiable commitments to be submitted to the next session of the Conference of the Parties. This proposal was endorsed by a number of delegations.
- To take steps to make the year 2000 the starting point for the decade to combat desertification.

5. The States parties were also addressed by the President of the National Assembly of Senegal, who introduced to them the declaration adopted by the round table of parliamentarians concerning the implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification. The Conference took note of the declaration with satisfaction.

Annex V

DECLARATION BY MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENTS

Regarding the process of implementation of the United Nations
Convention to Combat Desertification

I. We, the Parliamentarians invited to meet in Dakar, Senegal, on 7 December 1998 by the Convention secretariat, the National Assembly of Senegal and the Inter-Parliamentary Union in the context of the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, declare that:

1. We are deeply alarmed by the impact of desertification which affects 3,600 million hectares, representing 70 per cent of the potential productive land in arid zones. The rapidity of this progression means that there is a loss of 6 million hectares annually. We are conscious of the gravity of the situation in different regions of the world as in Africa, a continent where deserts or arid zones constitute two thirds of the total land area and 73 per cent of the arid land is already seriously or moderately degraded; in Asia where around 1,400 million hectares are affected by desertification, which corresponds to 71 per cent of the arid land of the continent which is moderately or severely degraded; in Latin America, where nearly three quarters of the arid land is moderately or severely degraded and the Mediterranean, where almost two thirds of the arid land is severely degraded; the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, where 40 per cent to 80 per cent of the arid land is severely degraded;

2. It is intolerable that at the beginning of the twenty-first century nearly 1 billion men, women and children, are permanently threatened by desertification; that hundreds of millions of people suffer from a chronic shortage of basic necessities such as water; and that millions of "environmental refugees" are forced to abandon their native land to seek relief elsewhere;

3. We share fully the founding premise of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, according to which sustainable development cannot be attained unless:

- (i) It is oriented towards people in protecting the interests of the affected populations and eradicates poverty;
- (ii) It involves these populations fully in the decision-making process, in measures for the protection of the environment and in the struggle against desertification;
- (iii) It includes the dimension of the fight against poverty.

4. We believe that desertification, poverty, famine, social and political disturbances, wars, migration and the displacement of populations, which have led many times to new and most serious degradation of the natural environment, are all interconnected;

5. We take note of the serious budgetary constraints of the poorest affected countries, which still have to devote a considerable proportion of their scant financial resources to debt repayment and servicing.

II. Affirming our total commitment, as Parliamentarians, to contribute fully to the implementation of the Convention, in countries that are Parties to the Convention:

6. We support where necessary the adoption or the strengthening of legislation concerning the fight against desertification and the preservation of the ecosystems in all the affected countries;

7. We subscribe to the promotion of policies and the strengthening of appropriate institutional frameworks for the favourable development of cooperation among the countries affected by desertification and their partners in development;

8. We support the strengthening of social, education and health policies through public awareness campaigns about the negative effects of desertification as well as the participation of youth and women in the development programmes;

9. We subscribe to the integration of the main provisions of the Convention in national policies for sustainable development;

10. We subscribe to the initiative that the year 2000 be the starting point of the decade to combat desertification;

11. We support fully the initiatives of agencies, donor countries and civil society to mobilize financial assistance for the promotion of sustainable development in poorest countries with fragile ecosystems, through the Convention's Global Mechanism.

III. We undertake to promote in our respective Parliaments:

12. The follow-up to implementation of the Convention, making full use of the mechanisms available in our Parliaments to monitor government action and thus ensure that the Convention is fully implemented;

13. The formulation of national legislation and its harmonization with the provisions of the Convention;

14. The inclusion of the combat against desertification in the overall agendas of our national Governments so as to make the combat a priority matter for our countries and also our regional and subregional organizations;

15. The formulation of national action programmes covering water management and applied agricultural research in the poorest countries affected by desertification and others as necessary, and their financing in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

16. The adoption of practical measures to include environmental education, in particular the fight against desertification, in school curricula.

IV. We are deeply convinced of the need to undertake far-reaching action with the main priorities:

17. To promote forms of regional and subregional cooperation, favourable to improving relations between our relevant intergovernmental organizations;

18. To set up, at the local level, action programmes based on the reforestation and rehabilitation of land which involves all stakeholders in the field, in particular the education system and representatives of civil society, especially youth and women's associations;

19. To define action programmes involving international organizations, including United Nations agencies, donors, national institutions, elected representatives, NGOs, and the local population, in particular resource users, both men and women, to promote the objectives of the Convention;

20. As appropriate in the case of poorest affected countries to expand debt-for-nature swaps for land rehabilitation and reforestation.

V. We Parliamentarians address an urgent appeal:

21. To all relevant participants in civil society, such as financial institutions, personalities in the fields of finance, commerce, sport, the media and the arts, to support the mobilization of financial resources to support the fight against desertification which is under way in the developing countries most seriously affected by desertification and drought;

22. To academic institutions, the scientific community and research centres for their support in the various tasks of implementing the Convention in affected countries with particular regard to the needs of developing countries;

23. To the Inter-Parliamentary Union to give the widest publicity possible to this Declaration and, notably that it be transmitted to all national parliaments for their attention;

24. To the secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification to continue the actions taken up to this time to support the countries affected by desertification, and to take all necessary measures to make the present declaration universally known;

25. To the secretariats of the CCD and the Inter-Parliamentary Union to take follow-up action on the present meeting and organize similar meetings in conjunction with future conferences of the Parties.

Annex VI

SUMMARIES OF STATEMENTS MADE AT THE CLOSING CEREMONY

CCD secretariat

1. The Executive Secretary of the CCD secretariat thanked the host country for the organization of the Conference and confirmed the full commitment of the secretariat to accomplish its mandate and assist countries in the implementation of the Convention. He called for an increased mobilization of the international community to assist affected countries in the implementation of programmes that allow reaching priority goals such as food security, rural development, efficient water management, etc. He recalled the full involvement of non-governmental organizations, of the media and of Parliamentarians in supporting the Convention.

Indonesia

2. Partnership is the core element of the Convention negotiations. There is high expectation that the Global Mechanism will be able to fully operate in its main functions by COP 3, and it will be the countries' responsibility to enhance the necessary mobilization of funds and transfer of technology.

Austria

3. Dialogue has been a central element of these negotiations, both among delegations, in particular on the national action programme process, and between delegations and non-governmental organizations, and it represents the basis for real progress towards concrete results in affected countries at the national and local levels. The European Union confirms its commitment to support affected countries, and welcomes the initiative to launch the discussion on Annex V. Europe stresses the need to stick to the rules set by the text of the Convention as the basis for a cooperative atmosphere among countries, and encourages all countries to elaborate policies and priorities on the basis of the spirit of the CCD. As many initiatives are being implemented at the international level to combat desertification by a number of different actors, the European Union stresses the need to harmonize them and enhance synergies.

Armenia

4. Eastern Europe welcomes the launching of the process of elaboration of Annex V.

Canada

6. The JUSSCANZ countries express their concern that more work remains to be done, in particular concerning the medium-term strategy of the CCD secretariat, and welcomes the growing interest in the Convention. In particular, it welcomes a new member country and expects others to join soon.

Haiti

7. The Convention represents a fundamental tool of hope for GRULAC countries, which place hope in the full support of the international community for the prompt implementation of the CCD.

Islamic Republic of Iran

8. The speaker thanked the Senegalese Government and the Conference on behalf of the Asian Group.

Prime Minister of Senegal

9. The Prime Minister of Senegal, speaking on behalf of the President of Senegal, greeted the participants and highlighted the significance of holding the COP 2 in Africa, and in particular in Senegal, as a sign of the solidarity of the international community towards the continent which is most severely affected by drought and desertification. Desertification entails social and economic as well as environmental imbalances, and represents one of the major challenges ahead of the international community for which an adequate response needs to be mobilized.

Annex VII

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE CONFERENCE OF THE
PARTIES AT ITS SECOND SESSION

ICCD/COP(2)/1 and Corr.1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
ICCD/COP(2)/2	Programme and budget: adjustment to the Convention budget and programme for 1999
ICCD/COP(2)/3 and Add.1	Programme and budget: review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds in 1998
ICCD/COP(2)/4	Review of the report of the Global Mechanism on its activities, and the provision of guidance to it
ICCD/COP(2)/4/Add.1	Review of the report of the Global Mechanism on its activities, and the provision of guidance to it: draft memorandum of understanding with the International Fund for Agricultural Development on the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(2)/5	Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, including support to regional action programmes
ICCD/COP(2)/6	Medium-term strategy for the secretariat
ICCD/COP(2)/7	Promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions
ICCD/COP(2)/8 and Corr.1 and Add.1	Designation of a permanent secretariat and arrangements for its functioning: headquarters agreement with the Government of Germany
ICCD/COP(2)/8/Add.2	Designation of a permanent secretariat and arrangements for its functioning: relocation of the Convention secretariat to Bonn and possible liaison arrangements
ICCD/COP(2)/9	Designation of a permanent secretariat and arrangements for its functioning: institutional linkage
ICCD/COP(2)/10	Consideration with a view to adopting, pursuant to article 27 of the Convention, procedures and institutional mechanisms for the resolution of questions that may arise with regard to implementation
ICCD/COP(2)/11 and Add.1	Maintenance of the roster of experts

ICCD/COP(2)/12 and Add.1	Accreditation of non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations, admission of observers
ICCD/COP(2)/13 and Rev.1	Credentials of delegations
ICCD/COP(2)/CST/1	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
ICCD/COP(2)/CST/2	Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies
ICCD/COP(2)/CST/3	Benchmarks and indicators
ICCD/COP(2)/CST/3/Add.1	Benchmarks and indicators: report of the ad hoc panel
ICCD/COP(2)/CST/4	Report on the work of other bodies performing work similar to that envisaged for the Committee on Science and Technology
ICCD/COP(2)/CST/5	Synopsis of reports on traditional knowledge
ICCD/COP(2)/INF.1	Arrangements for the second session of the Conference of the Parties: preliminary information for participants
ICCD/COP(2)/INF.2	Programme and budget: review of the situation as regards extrabudgetary funds in 1998: summary report
ICCD/COP(2)/INF.3	Status of ratification of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
ICCD/COP(2)/INF.4	Preliminary list of focal points
ICCD/COP(2)/CRP.1	Report on behalf of the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development
ICCD/COP(2)/CRP.2	Report of the current Chair of the Facilitation Committee
ICCD/COP(2)/CRP.3	Amendments to the draft decisions recommended by the Committee on Science and Technology for adoption by the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(1)/11	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its first session, held in Rome from 29 September to 10 October 1997: Part One
ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1 and Corr.1	Report of the Conference of the Parties on its first session, held in Rome from 29 September to 10 October 1997: Part Two

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|--------------------------------|---|
| ICCD/COP(2)/L.1 | Roster of independent experts; other bodies performing work similar to that envisaged for the Committee on Science and Technology |
| ICCD/COP(2)/L.2 | Comment and recommendation of the CST on the report of the ad hoc panel on benchmarks and indicators contained in document ICCD/COP(2)/CST/3/Add.1 |
| ICCD/COP(2)/L.3
and Rev.1 | Work programme of the Committee on Science and Technology |
| ICCD/COP(2)/L.4
and Rev.1-2 | Traditional knowledge |
| ICCD/COP(2)/L.5 | Programme and budget: programme of work for the third and fourth sessions of the Conference of the Parties: ordinary sessions of the Conference of the Parties |
| ICCD/COP(2)/L.6 | Programme and budget: programme of work for the third and fourth sessions of the Conference of the Parties |
| ICCD/COP(2)/L.7 | Solidarity with Central America |
| ICCD/COP(2)/L.8 | Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, including support to regional programmes: procedures for the communication of information and review of implementation |
| ICCD/COP(2)/L.9 | Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, including support to regional programme |
| ICCD/COP(2)/L.10
and Rev.1 | Administrative and support arrangements for the secretariat, including interim arrangements |
| ICCD/COP(2)/L.11 | Designation of a permanent secretariat and arrangements for its functioning: headquarters agreement with the Government of Germany |
| ICCD/COP(2)/L.12
and Rev.1 | Review of the implementation of the Convention and of its institutional arrangements, including support to regional implementation: regional implementation annexes and interregional programmes and platforms of cooperation |
| ICCD/COP(2)/L.13 | Survey and evaluation of existing networks, institutions, agencies and bodies |

ICCD/COP(2)/L.14	Procedures for the communication of information and review of implementation
ICCD/COP(2)/L.15	Questions concerning implementation and arbitration
ICCD/COP(2)/L.16	Cooperation with other conventions and international bodies
ICCD/COP(2)/L.17 and Rev.1	Agreement concerning the headquarters of the permanent secretariat of the Convention
ICCD/COP(2)/L.18	Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(2)/L.19	Memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the International Fund for Agricultural Development regarding the modalities and administrative operations of the Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(2)/L.20	Collaboration with other conventions
ICCD/COP(2)/L.21	Medium-term strategy of the secretariat
ICCD/COP(2)/L.22	Annexes on arbitration and conciliation procedures
ICCD/COP(2)/L.23	Regional cooperation between countries of eastern and central Europe
ICCD/COP(2)/L.24	Outstanding rules of procedure
ICCD/COP(2)/L.25	Implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(2)/L.26	Programme of work of the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(2)/L.27	Date and venue of the third session of the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(2)/L.28	Adjustment to the Convention budget and programme for 1999
ICCD/COP(2)/L.29 and Corr.1	Report of the session: adoption of the report of the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(2)/L.30	Administrative and support arrangements for the secretariat, including interim arrangements
ICCD/COP(2)/L.31	Agreement concerning the headquarters of the permanent secretariat of the Convention

ICCD/COP(2)/L.32	Regional cooperation between countries of eastern and central Europe
ICCD/COP(2)/L.33	Resolution of questions; annexes on arbitration and conciliation procedures
ICCD/COP(2)/L.34	Collaboration with other conventions
ICCD/COP(2)/L.35	Outstanding rules of procedure
ICCD/COP(2)/L.36	Programme of work for the Conference of the Parties
ICCD/COP(2)/L.37	Procedures for the communication of information and review of implementation
ICCD/COP(2)/L.38	Medium-term strategy of the secretariat
ICCD/COP(2)/L.39	Implementation of the Convention
ICCD/COP(2)/L.40	Report on the Round Table of Parliamentarians
ICCD/COP(2)/L.41	Expression of gratitude to the Government and people of Senegal
ICCD/COP(2)/L.42	Consideration of rule 47 of the rules of procedure
ICCD/COP(2)/L.43	Global Mechanism
ICCD/COP(2)/L.44	Memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the International Fund for Agricultural Development regarding the modalities and administrative operations of the Global Mechanism
